

# FAIRLIE PARISH CHURCH NEWS



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**FAIRLIE-PARISH CHURCH is a LINKED CHARGE with LARGS:St.COLUMBA'S PARISH CHURCH**

**APRIL 2021**

## HOLY WEEK - 28<sup>th</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April

Worship is open to everyone and will take place in  
Largs: St Columba's Parish Church at 11.30am  
\* See below for attendance restrictions \*

It will also be streamed-live at 11.30am on the  
St Columba's Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/LargsNorthAyrshire/>

Afterwards, the service will be made available on the  
Facebook Page of Fairlie Parish Church  
and HERE on the website of Fairlie Church.

Holy Week starts with PALM SUNDAY, essentially  
the greatest week within the Christian faith: the  
week when we try to walk with Christ, as we know  
He did, towards the cross of Calvary.

Jesus' journey was hard, beyond our imagining, and  
how we recollect and engage with His journey is, no  
doubt, paltry; but the discipline of doing so can be  
immensely rewarding.

Therefore, each day next week, Monday-Friday,  
there will be a short act of worship in  
St Columba's Parish Church from 2.45-3.15pm

All Acts of Worship are open to everyone.....  
from all churches and none with restrictions as  
follows \*

If you would like to come along to church on Palm  
Sunday, or through Holy Week please let Gillian  
McEleny know by phoning her on Thursday morning  
from 10.00am - 1.00pm on 673505

Working with the restrictions, it is fully our intention  
to accommodate as many people as possible.

When arriving at church:

Please follow the guidance of those on duty.  
We have a one-way system through the building,  
from access to egress.



Dear Friends,

We are in the time of Easter; the  
time of new beginnings and new  
opportunities made possible  
through the resurrection of our  
Lord Jesus Christ. So, what is new  
with you?



Maybe the immediate answer to my question is,  
'nothing at all.' And you may feel that that is true.  
However, if you cast your mind back to this time last  
year, the beginning of lockdown, and compare your  
life now to then, I'm sure there will have been many  
changes; many new beginnings. It may just be that  
we don't recognise new beginnings for what they  
are.

I remember when I was young wondering what the  
future would be like. And I still wonder what the  
future will be like, today, because as the prophet  
Isaiah tells us, we should not dwell of the past for  
God is doing a new thing! [Isaiah 43: 18-20] God is  
always making new things happen; if we only have  
eyes to see!

Having a faith in the resurrected Jesus can cause us  
to see life differently. We are, after all, the *Easter  
People*; a people who look at life through the  
promises God fulfilled in Jesus.

( Continued overleaf )

However, I have also come to realise that seeing and embracing new beginnings, even in the church, can often mean letting go of something from the past. And that seems very true at the moment: as the saying goes, *'if you always do what you have always done you will always get what you have always got!*

For many years the people of the Church of Scotland have yearned for change; and now we have to. A year out of fellowship and social gathering with one another will have caused us all to be desperate to return to our church buildings; for worship; for prayer; for coffee mornings and for all the other events which centre around our Christian faith and church buildings. And that is great. But, how we will be *'as a Church'* must change, and it will take the strength of God's Holy Spirit to keep us together as we work out what that actually means for us.

After the glorious resurrection of Jesus, His first followers experienced new beginnings and new opportunities, and they were afraid. But it was *to* these first Christians that the Holy Spirit was sent as they began to tentatively become the Church; a people representing and sharing the Good News of Jesus in ways which were relevant to their times. Our God is a faithful God and, just as God guided

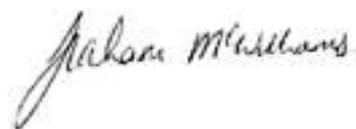
these early people of Christian faith, so God will guide us today, that we may continue to be faithful to Him. However, we must share the Good News in ways which are relevant to the people of this age. That is the Easter challenge which we face: to do things differently, in new ways.

Grasping new beginnings, and taking new opportunities, for the sake of the Gospel will only ever be possible if we are prepared to let go of some of the traditions of our past. If 'tradition' is the living faith of the dead and 'traditionalism' is the dead faith of the living what are we going to do to make our faith relevant to this new generation?

Whatever it is that we are being called to do we are assured that God is with us; and whatever we do it must always be to God's glory and God's honour. So, if we cannot think 'what is new with us, we must open our eyes for God is always doing a new thing!

I hope and pray that you have a wonderful Easter and, as these days of restrictions ease, may it be that, soon, we will all see one another and share in our Christian joy.

Yours in Christ,



## KNIT & NATTER

Now that we are getting our vaccinations, we can look forward to getting together once more for a chat and a cuppa sometime soon. Thanks for the squares and blankets and baby hats that have been handed in. Keep on knitting please – baby hats and cardigans, hats and scarves for shoeboxes, squares for blankets. Squares are 25 stitches on size 8 (4mm) needles and using DK. Or just keep your fingers nimble by knitting whatever you like for yourself. We have wool, patterns and needles for anyone who would like to start. Phone me on 568421 and I can drop them off to you. In the meantime, enjoy this spring weather and stay safe.



Ann T.



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We look forward to welcoming you  
when current restrictions are eased 



I am sure that you will all be looking forward to the lengthening days, the warmer temperatures and the freedom to meet up with others in the fresh air.

Unfortunately, spring flowering shrubs, flowers and trees are increasingly adding to the misery of allergy sufferers, due to the effect of the CO2 produced by rising temperatures. Higher levels of the gas can cause more pollen to be released.

Several studies suggest that having more CO2 in the air means more food for the plants, which increases plant growth and pollen

NHS estimate that 13 million people are affected each year and the attacks are starting earlier and continuing for longer.

The quality of the air in large cities is affected by the relationship between pollen and pollution particles from traffic. As more people are wearing masks, those allergy sufferers may benefit from the pandemic in a round about way.

In the summer, regulations will be introduced to prevent 'planned obsolescence' and a legally binding right to a repair system will be introduced. Manufacturers will be obliged to provide spare parts for televisions, washing machines, dishwashers and fridges for a period of 7-10 years to reduce the 1.5 m. tonnes of UK electrical waste.

The provision of parts which can replace faulty ones with the use of non-specialised tools will allow consumers to repair their own items and so create a circular economy extending the life of the item, allowing for increased recycling and prevent many items so quickly ending up in landfill .

Energy efficiency labels will soon be upgraded to reduce consumer's bills by about £75 per year and so help to cut carbon emissions. The new labels will help to simplify the rating on an A-G scale, with the bar being raised for each grade, so that very few will be classed in the top A. The Energy Saving Trust said, "Simplifying the way energy is displayed will help consumers to make better decisions.

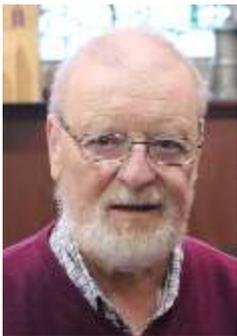
If anyone would like to do some litter-picking, I have some NAC bags litter pickers and gloves and can make them available.

In the lead up to COP26, Eco-congregation Scotland is having services each Sunday, led by the Rev. David Coleman, in various churches around Scotland. If you would like to attend on-line, please search for Eco-congregation Scotland.

The amount of Gas used in February was 576 cubic metres, while in 2020, it was 581.

The amount of Electricity used in February was 138 kWh, while in 2020, it was 784.

Ann Gregory



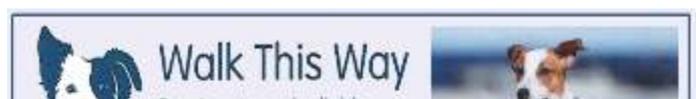
### Tom McLauchlan – Retiring Treasurer

Tom has been our treasurer for the last 10 years and he intimated last year that he would be standing down from the roll in the spring of 2021. I would like to thank Tom for all the work he has done over those years, in organising the books, paying bills, preparing the books for inspection and taking us through the year's accounts at the Stated Annual meetings. It was a huge task and the Kirk Session is very grateful and appreciative of all he has done. Our new treasurer is Christine Thomas, who is also the Presbytery treasurer.

The Kirk Session would like to wish Tom a long and happy retirement.



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## FROM CAROLINE IN CHAD ( Central Africa) March 2021 Update

*Serving language communities in Chad through language development, literacy and Bible translation*



Dear friends,

As I write this, it's International Women's Day, which is celebrated in quite a big way here in Chad with women dressing in official women's day dress, schools shut to allow the girls and female teachers to go on parade, and lots of

awareness raising on basic women's issues and rights taking place around the country. This includes many of the basics that most of those of us who grow up in the UK take for granted - access to basic education, health care, food security and good nutrition, safe water and hygienic sanitation facilities, as well as a whole range of other physical, social and spiritual needs that help women and girls thrive and flourish in their communities. The language factor plays a key role in many of these issues. So by promoting language-based solutions our organisation plays its part in strengthening communities by making life better for women of all ages. What a privilege!

With heartfelt thanks for your ongoing care and support,

### What are your plans for 2021?

I have tickets booked to return to the UK on 18th April for my home assignment of 5 months. My flights have already been changed twice by the airline - such is travel in COVID times... All being well, I will take part in our organisation's on-line international conference during my period of self-isolation, before joining my parents' household in early May for the first month at least. One way or another, and depending on how COVID restrictions ease over the summer, I hope to be able to connect with many of you and share about life and work in Chad over this past season. I am both excited about the prospect of seeing



so many dear ones again, and also nervous about how I will navigate all the changes and disruption since I was last in the UK.

*Please pray for me as I finish up here in Chad over the coming weeks, and handover various aspects of my work. Pray too for safe travels, and a smooth re-entry into UK life.*

### When will you finish up in your current role?

I know many of you will be wondering about this question. The answer is not yet clear. After a bit of delay due to the impacts of COVID, our Executive committee is now starting the process to look for my successor as director. However, we don't yet know how quickly that person will be found, nor when they might be ready to take over my role. At this stage, I plan on returning to Chad for a further assignment of 2 and a half years and continuing as director until November 2022 at the earliest and November 2023 at the latest. We will have to wait and see how things work out in practice.

*Please pray for the process to select the next director, and for our succession planning efforts more widely.*

In late December, I attended the Guerguiko New Testament launch event. The next day, I had the opportunity to walk part way up the mountain and visit some of the historic villages, where the people used to live before they settled on the plains. It was fascinating to see the old terraces where their homes used to be, the old pots and jars, graveyards, and old tools and bracelets. The scenery was beautiful and the sunrise quite stunning!

*Caroline*



**DAVID CORNISH 1926 - 2021** from words spoken at his funeral



David Cornish was born on 27<sup>th</sup> January 1924 in London where his father was a Police Sergeant in the 'Met'.

He was immersed in music from an early age as a choir boy singing in a number of Churches in London including Westminster Abbey, when he sang in the film

'Victoria the Great' with Anna Eagle.

He was an accomplished pianist and as such very popular in the RAF mess and London pubs during his wartime service when he was happy to tickle the ivories for a pint of Guinness.

The greatest love of David's life was Betty. They moved to Fairlie in 1968 with David working at ICI, Ardeer. With their two daughters, Sally and Alison, they were soon settled in the village and music continued to loom large in his life. He was Church Organist at Fairlie for 35 years and that involved the Sunday School as well as playing up at Fairlie Primary School. As a member of a local band he was a regular

the Fairlieburne Hotel and was delighted to assist with the local Dramatic and Operatic Clubs David and Betty were renowned for their social gatherings David was always quiet, always smiling, with a great sense of humour.

They were devoted to one another and with retirement in 1979 the next 25 years were spent travelling the World. Whether it be Concorde, cruising the Caribbean, or touring the Far East they were never happier than when planning their next trip.

As Betty got frailer, David cared for her without a moment's hesitation. They had a wonderful marriage for 67 years and they will be so happy to be reunited now.

In his own quiet way, David commanded great respect, loyalty and affection from everyone.

Filled with warmth and affection to the very end, David was called to the Lord's nearer presence on

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021. May Almighty God now grant him eternal rest.

The one word which everyone has used when recalling his life was "David was a real Gentleman".

**Christian Aid Week 10-16 May 2021**

We've been there for refugees since 1945. We won't turn our backs now.

Christian Aid Week from 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May.

This year is the 75th anniversary of the charity, and the theme is Climate Change and the injustices communities round the world are having to face. More information and a red envelope will be included in the May edition of the newsletter giving you the opportunity to donate if you wish.

*Liz Clark*



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..... And now something for the young and young at heart

### An Easter Biscuit (by Rev. Stephen Ogston)

*How many biscuits can you identify in this story of Easter. There should be 19!*

Jesus lived two thousand years ago in a land called Israel that you need an aero-plane to get to. Jesus was the Son of God and was born in Bethlehem and grew up in Nazareth with His mother Mary and His father Joseph. When Jesus was about 30 years old He began to travel around the country teaching people about God and healing the sick. He invited 12 men to join His club and become His disciples. These disciples were Jesus' closest friends.

Even though the people who heard Jesus speak and saw Jesus heal the sick loved Him, the leaders of the people didn't like Jesus because they thought He might make people breakaway from the other people.

One day Jesus told His friends that He was going to ride into Jerusalem. The disciples asked if He was going to take a taxi. However, Jesus said He would ride on one of the animals they could find, such as a donkey. When Jesus came into Jerusalem riding a donkey, everyone waved palm branches and shouted "hosanna".

On the Thursday after that, Jesus gathered His friends together to share Passover which was a meal rather than a snack. After the meal, Jesus took the bread which was like a wafer and broke it and then He took a cup and told His friends that He would soon die to show them how much God loved them. Later that night Jesus and His friends went to the garden of Gethsemane. It was there that one of the twelve disciples, called Judas came to betray Jesus. He had been paid 30 pieces of gold. No sorry, I should have said 30 pieces of silver. Judas was a bit of a jammie dodger and with one kiss he betrayed Jesus.

When Jesus was arrested all His friends ran away – a

bunch of drifters. Jesus was then put on trial by His enemies who asked the local Roman ruler to kill him. Pontius Pilate couldn't find anything wrong with Jesus. And so washed his hands, including his fingers, to show that he wanted nothing to do with Jesus' death.

Then the soldiers marched away like gingerbread men and told Jesus to pppp-pick up His penguin. Sorry, again, I meant to say that they told Jesus to pick up His cross. It was rather a rocky road to the place where Jesus was to be killed on the cross.

At a place called Golgotha, Jesus was nailed to a cross and hung between two criminals who had been sentenced to death because of their twix. At 12-noon, a shadow came across the sun like a large oreo and everything went dark until Jesus died at 3pm. When Jesus was dead, His body was removed from the cross and placed in a tomb by His friends.

Then, because the next day was Saturday, they went home and had some time out after a very sad day. On Sunday morning, some women went to care for Jesus' body. When they got to the tomb they saw that the large stone had been rolled away like a huge wagon wheel. An angel told them that Jesus was alive and would see them soon. Suddenly, Jesus appeared to them and showed them that He was alive.

In the days afterwards, Jesus appeared to His disciple many times; until 40 days later when Jesus ascended into the blue yonder to be with God forever. And so, every Sunday people meet around the world to celebrate this classic story of Easter which tells us about God's love for us through Jesus; and that Jesus is alive.



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# Rambling ROSE

You will all know what I am talking about (The ships tied up at the terminal) .....not that I know where they came from or what they are, but I can certainly tell we don't need them in our waters. One day, those two tall things, just like our old-fashioned milk bottles, moved into the Village seaside. I don't think many of us know why. They haven't been noisy to everyone but just HUGE and as far as we know they are useless to us in the village. Has anyone got any ideas?

*(Ed. They are oil drilling rigs for use at sea, and are owned by a company now waiting for their next contract. They were built in the last 10 years or so and were reputed to have cost in the region of a billion pounds)*

I have been so lucky going along the shore and seeing the Little Dipper that lives near the burn. We see it flying up and down and bobbing in and out the water. Now it's easy to understand why it's called a dipper! I have heard that every leaf that he or she collects for building their nest is wetted first, making it easier to build.

I ask for yet another coffee during the day and it makes me wonder where all our coffee comes from. Which Country? What plant? And who enjoyed the first cup?

Great excitement, our hedgehog is still with us in the garden

## Ground Almond pudding

A delicious recipe given to me by a kind lady in my old district.

- 1) Cream 4 oz butter with 4 oz castor sugar till creamy.
- 2) Add two eggs gently whisking as you add them.
- 3) Fold in the 4oz ground almonds (great for those of us who can't eat flour). -I also add vanilla extract.

You then put this topping on top of already stewed fruit, whatever fruit you want or have, eg apples with perhaps some plums or brambles , your choice. It's really like an Eve or Adam mixture.

It takes a while to cook - around 180c/350 F/gas mark 4 for about an hour.

Yummy !

*Rosemary Jarvie*

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## It is good to laugh at ourselves!



These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:-

- \* Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.
- \* The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- \* The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict of interests.
- \* Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.
- Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "Hell" to someone who doesn't care much about you.
- \* Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
- \* For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- \* Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- \* At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?"  
Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- \* The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility ....
- \* The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind.  
They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- \* The minister would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.



## Messy Church

Dear Folks,

As Spring is now here, our thoughts turn to gardens and new life. Flowers are popping up in bright colours, making us feel hopeful for good weather and getting out and about. We are more appreciative of the flowers and birds after the dark of winter and lock down.

Gardens are so important for our health, working in them, being in them or just looking at them. Jesus too went into gardens and green spaces to be by himself, to recharge his batteries or to pray on his own or with friends. At Easter we remember how Jesus and some of his friends went into a garden called Gethsemane. It was a peaceful place, full of olive trees, where Jesus went at night to pray to God. He knew he was going to die and asked his friends to pray with him. Sadly they were so tired that they fell asleep in the quiet, scented garden. Three times he had to wake them up. Just after this Jesus was arrested and taken away.

After he was crucified, Jesus' body was taken to a believer's garden which had a tomb. There, he was placed and a few days later, after the Sabbath, some women went to the garden and found to their huge surprise that He was no longer there and had risen. This was the start of the Hope we have as followers of Jesus.

Thank you to those who have painted your Stones Of Hope for our Easter Garden display outside the church. There is still time to put a stone or pebble in the basket outside the porch. Please come and look at our Garden of Hope. Pause and pray for all our family and friends and those who are finding it hard at this time.

Enjoy your Easter holidays and stay safe.

*Ann & the Messy Team.*



### NEXT ISSUE

The Next edition of the Newsletter will be the MAY edition  
Last date for copy is  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL  
For PUBLICATION on 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL

### Newsletter on the WEB

The Church Newsletter is on the Web in the first week of the month on the Church Website - [www.fairlieparish.co.uk](http://www.fairlieparish.co.uk)

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